

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

- 1-55. (cancelled)
56. (original) A dancing shoe, comprising;
- a) a shoe upper configured to fit the foot of a dancer, said upper having a longitudinal slot with holes on opposing sides of said slot;
 - b) a shoe lower that includes a sole and a heel;
 - c) the heel having a heel bottom surface and a rear beveled portion that has an inclined spinning surface that forms an angle of between 30 and 60 degrees with the heel bottom;
 - d) the plurality of holes being receptive of one or more shoe laces, said holes including first and second pairs of holes that are closely spaced and a third pair of holes that are not closely spaced to said first and second closely spaced pairs of holes, each said pair of holes having a hole that is aligned generally with a hole of another pair along one side of said opening;
 - e) lacing that is laced through the holes, said lacing beginning at an uppermost pair of holes, then extending along a longitudinal line that tracks one of each of said pair of holes, said laces being laced through a lower most hole, and lacing that extends diagonally from one hole to another hole along a vertical path.
57. (original) The dancing shoe of claim 56 further comprising a reinforcing member that extends continuously along the shoe upper next to but spaced from the holes.
58. (original) The dancing shoe of claim 56 wherein the reinforcing member extends along opposing sides of a row of said openings.
59. (original) The dancing shoe of claim 56 wherein the pairs of holes include a total number of at least ten holes.
60. (original) The dancing shoe of claim 59 wherein said holes include said first and second pairs of holes that are closely spaced, fourth and fifth pairs of holes that are closely spaced and positioned generally in between the third pair of holes, and the first and second pairs of holes.
61. (original) The dancing shoe of claim 56 wherein the holes of the first and second pairs of holes are spaced apart along the slot a first longitudinal distance and the third pair of holes are spaced from the first and second pairs of holes a second longitudinal distance that is greater than

said first longitudinal distance.

62. (original) The dancing shoe of claim 56 wherein the holes of the first and second pairs of holes are spaced apart along the slot a first longitudinal distance, the third pair of holes being spaced from the first and second pairs of holes a second that is greater than said first longitudinal distance, and the fourth and fifth pairs of holes being spaced a third longitudinal distance along the slot from both the third pair of openings and the first and second pairs of openings a distance that is greater than the first longitudinal distance.

63. (original) The dancing shoe of claim 62 further comprising hole reinforcing members that extend continuously along the slot next to but spaced from the holes.

64. (cancelled)

65. (new) The dancing shoe of claim 56 further comprising a projecting portion that is mounted to the heel on the spinning surface and that projects away from the spinning surface.

66. (new) The dancing shoe of claim 65 wherein the projecting portion is rotatably attached to the heel.

67. (new) The dancing shoe of claim 65 further comprising a layer of compressible material attached to the heel at the spinning surface next to the projecting portion.

68. (new) The dancing shoe of claim 67 wherein the projecting portion and layer of compressible material are of about the same thickness.

69. (new) The dancing shoe of claim 67 wherein the layer of compressible material surrounds the projecting portion.

70. (new) The dancing shoe of claim 56 wherein the heel includes two connectable sections, one section having the beveled portion.

71. (new) The dancing shoe of claim 56 further comprising a second projecting portion mounted on the sole of the shoe in front of the heel.

72. (new) The dancing shoe of claim 56 wherein there are a plurality of projecting portions attached to the heel at the spinning surface.

73 (new) The dancing shoe of claim 69 wherein the plurality of projecting portions are attached to the heel at spaced apart positions.

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74. (new) The dancing shoe of claim 71 further comprising a layer of compressible material attached to the sole in front of the heel and next to the second projecting portion.